



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Texas Crop Weather

Cooperating with Texas Department of Agriculture
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For the week of: September 14 – 20, 2009

Agricultural Summary: The eastern part of the state received up to 10 inches of rainfall and the southern part of the state observed up to 5 inches of moisture. The rest of the state observed scattered showers. Winter wheat planting was in full-swing, cotton was in need of more heat and dry weather, and sorghum was turning color in the Northern High Plains. Sorghum progressed well and winter wheat planting had begun in the Southern High Plains. Recent moisture improved wheat growing conditions in the Edwards Plateau and South Central Texas. Cotton harvest continued in southern areas of the state. Cotton ginning was active in parts of South Texas. Producers prepared to harvest peanuts in the Southern Plains. In the Trans-Pecos, hail caused severe damage to pecan trees. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in localized areas of the state, however, livestock were grazing the greener pastures due to the recent rainfall. Range and pastures progressed well due to the recent rainfall across most of the state, however, the southern part of the state continued to be in need of moisture. Top soil moisture was mostly short to adequate across the state.

Field Crops Report

Small Grains: Winter wheat planting was in full-swing in the Northern High Plains. Winter wheat planting had begun in parts of the Southern High Plains. Recent rainfall provided adequate moisture for planting in the Southern Low Plains. Recent rainfall in the Northern Low Plains and the Cross Timbers delayed wheat planting. Recent moisture improved wheat growing conditions in the Edwards Plateau and South Central Texas.

Cotton: In the Northern High Plains, cotton was in need of more heat and dry weather to continue maturing. Early planted cotton was opening and dropping fruit in the Northern Low Plains. Cotton harvest was delayed due to rainfall in the Blacklands and Eastern Texas. Cotton harvest continued in southern areas of the state. Cotton ginning was active in parts of South Texas. Cotton condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Corn: Corn harvest was active in the High Plains, however, moisture caused delays. Corn condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Sorghum: Sorghum was turning color in the Northern High Plains. Grain sorghum in the Southern High Plains progressed well. Grain sorghum harvest neared completion in the Northern Low Plains. Rain delayed sorghum harvest in the Blacklands. Sorghum condition was mostly very poor to fair statewide.

Peanuts: Producers prepared to harvest peanuts in the Southern Plains. Producers applied fungicides due to peanut diseases in the Northern Low Plains. Peanuts progressed well in South Texas as producers prepared for harvest. Peanut condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Rice: Rice condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Soybeans: Soybean condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crop Report

Sunflowers and peas were in the final growth stages in the Southern High Plains. Fall vegetable planting had begun in the Edwards Plateau. Sunflower and sesame harvest was delayed due to very wet fields in parts of the Coastal Bend. Bed preparation continued for spinach, onions, and carrots in South Texas.

Pecans: In the Trans-Pecos, hail caused severe damage to pecan trees. Pecans progressed well in the Edwards Plateau.

Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Supplemental feeding of livestock continued in localized areas of the state, however, livestock were grazing the greener pastures due to the recent rainfall. Stock tank levels in some areas of the state were replenished due to the recent rainfall. Weaning and selling of livestock continued in localized parts of the state. Hay cutting was delayed in parts of the state where rainfall was received. Army worms and feral hogs caused hay meadows to suffer in East Texas. Range and pastures progressed well due to the recent rainfall across most of the state, however, the southern part of the state continued to be in need of moisture. Range and pasture condition was mostly fair to good statewide.

Top Soil Moisture by District – September 20, 2009

Condition	Percent of Acreage, by District *														
	1-N	1-S	2-N	2-S	3	4	5-N	5-S	6	7	8-N	8-S	9	10-N	10-S
Very Short	2	11	2	2	2	0	0	11	21	25	27	28	20	5	2
Short	51	53	27	41	20	5	3	30	49	24	41	28	39	30	10
Adequate	46	34	60	48	74	60	65	41	30	49	31	36	38	62	88
Surplus	1	2	11	9	4	35	32	18	0	2	1	8	3	3	0

* High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Texas: 3, 4; East Texas: 5-N, 5-S. Trans-Pecos: 6; Edwards Plateau: 7; South Central Texas: 8-N, 8-S; Upper Coast: 9; South Texas: 10-N; Lower Valley: 10-S.

Crop Progress Table – September 20, 2009

Crop	Stage	Percent		
		2009	2008	Average 2004 – 2008
Corn	Dent	96	98	99
	Mature	73	74	85
	Harvested	69	65	70
Cotton	Setting Bolls	97	99	100
	Bolls Opening	41	29	41
	Harvested	14	17	17
Peanuts	Harvested	3	3	3
Rice	Harvested	91	92	96
Sorghum	Headed	98	98	99
	Coloring	82	78	83
	Mature	67	68	70
	Harvested	65	67	66
Soybeans	Dropping Leaves	72	88	50
	Harvested	49	69	66
Sunflowers	Planted	91	100	100
	Harvested	10	9	27
Winter Wheat	Planted	32	20	27
Oats	Planted	7	8	16

Crop Condition Table – September 20, 2009

Crop	Percent					Index ^{1/}	
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Very Poor	2009	2008
Corn	6	31	24	14	25	54	59
Cotton	10	29	31	16	14	60	65
Peanuts	17	64	19	0	0	88	80
Rice	10	30	39	9	12	64	80
Sorghum	3	20	38	16	23	49	67
Soybeans	7	29	35	23	6	61	57
Range & Pasture	5	23	34	20	18	-	-

1/ The formula for the condition index is $I = (5V + 25P + 60F + 90G + 110E)/100$ where
 I=crop condition Index and V, P, F, G, E = percentage of crop rated very poor, poor, fair, good, excellent.

Weather Information Table ^{1/}

National Weather Service Climatic Divisions ^{2/}	Previous Week Accumulation (Sep 14 – 20)	Month-to-Date Accumulation (Sep 1 – 20)	Year-to-Date Accumulation (Jan 1 – Sep 20)	Annual Normal (1971 – 2000)	Previous Three Months Percent of Normal (Jun – Aug)
High Plains	0.03	0.88	12.65	19.64	104
Low Rolling Plains	0.01	2.47	15.70	24.51	97
North Central Texas	0.45	4.63	22.29	35.23	79
East Texas	1.54	4.02	27.72	48.08	73
Trans-Pecos	0.15	0.86	7.43	13.19	84
Edwards Plateau	0.04	2.19	12.70	24.73	54
South Central Texas	0.00	3.54	10.99	36.21	18
Upper Coast	0.00	2.98	19.13	50.31	39
South Texas	0.05	3.16	7.39	24.08	13
Lower Valley	0.41	2.71	7.27	25.43	29

1/ Average of all stations reporting precipitation data.

2/ High Plains: 1-N, 1-S; Low Rolling Plains: 2-N, 2-S; North Central Texas: 3, 4; East Texas: 5-N, 5-S. Trans-Pecos: 6; Edwards Plateau: 7; South Central Texas: 8-N, 8-S; Upper Coast: 9; South Texas: 10-N; Lower Valley: 10-S.

For more weather information, please visit the following web sites:

www.srh.noaa.gov/ftcshare/precip_analysis_new.php and www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html

Cooperating Agencies:

Texas AgriLife Extension Service
 Texas Department of Agriculture
 National Weather Service

